

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Digital image data is divided, per frame, into an "N" number of fields ("N" being an integer of 2 or more). An N/m number of combinations of imperceptible codes are produced. Each combination has an "m" number of imperceptible codes given by a function, an inverse of a specific function that gives a specific identification code by using the "m" number of imperceptible codes as variables ("m" being an integer of 2 or more and given by dividing "N" by an integer). The N/m number of combinations of imperceptible codes are embedded into image data divided into the "N" number of fields according to a code embedding technique so that the "m" number of imperceptible codes of each combination are embedded into image data in the "m" number of fields according to a specific rule of positional correspondence to give correlation among the "m" number of fields in the "N" number of fields of one frame. The code-embedded digital image data is divided, per frame, into the "N" number of fields. The imperceptible codes are extracted from the image data divided into the "N" number of fields according to a code extraction technique corresponding to the code embedding technique. The extracted imperceptible codes are combined into the N/m number of combinations according to the rule of positional correspondence. The specific function is executed to conduct a specific operation by using the imperceptible codes of each of the N/m number of combinations as variables. It is determined that the input digital image data has not been tampered with only when results of the specific operation is equal to specific identification code for all of the N/m number of combinations.